

Please add new claims as follows:

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-- 10. A tool according to claim 1, wherein the barrel assembly is disconnected from the mass and has rear surface adapted to strike on a front surface of the mass to drive the mass rearwardly on recoil.

11. A tool according to claim 1, wherein the barrel assembly is mounted axially movable relative to said housing between a forward position and a rearward position, and, in the forward position, a front section of the barrel assembly projects outside the housing.

12. A tool according to claim 11, wherein firing of said tool is enabled only if the front section of the barrel assembly is completely retracted within the housing.

13. A tool according to claim 1, wherein said piston is completely kept within the barrel assembly during operation of said tool.

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14. An explosively operated tool for driving a fastener into a substrate, said tool comprising:

a housing;

a barrel mounted to the housing for axial movement relative to the housing between first forward position and first rearward position;

a piston axially displaceable within the barrel between a second forward position and a second rearward position, said piston being explosively driven forwardly from the second rearward position to the second forward position, causing a recoil movement of said barrel from the first forward position to the first rearward position; and

a resetting mechanism connecting the barrel and the piston for automatically resetting the piston from the second forward position to the second rear position in response to a return movement of the barrel from the first rearward position to the first forward position.

15. A tool according to claim 14, wherein an axial distance between the first forward position and the first rearward position is shorter than that between the second forward position to the second rear position.

16. A tool according to claim 14, wherein said resetting mechanism comprises:
a catching element releasably engaging the piston; and
a spring attached to the barrel and the catching element, respectively;
wherein said spring is configured so that potential energy is stored in said spring in response to the recoil movement of said barrel and is not released until said barrel has passed an intermediate location between the first rearward position and the first forward position on the return movement.

17. A tool according to claim 16, wherein said barrel has a latch that engages the catching element and rigidly connects the barrel with the catching element when said barrel is between the first rearward position and the intermediate location on the return movement, said latch is disengaged from said catching element when said barrel is between the intermediate location and the first forward position.

18. A tool according to claim 16, wherein the catching element is configured to engage and rearwardly drive the piston when the catching element is driven rearwardly when the energy is released by the spring.

19. A tool according to claim 14, further comprising a recoil absorption spring disposed between a rear flange of the housing and the barrel, said recoil absorption spring being configured so that potential energy is stored in said recoil absorption spring on recoil of said tool and is at least partially released to drive the barrel from the first rearward position to the first forward position on the return movement.

20. A tool according to claim 14, further comprising a breach block assembly comprising a firing pin adapted to ignite an explosive charge upon firing of said tool, said breach block assembly being mounted in and axially movable relative to said housing.

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21. A tool according to claim 20, wherein said breach block assembly further comprises a front face having an aperture formed therein, said firing pin being adapted to pass through said aperture upon firing of said tool to ignite the explosive charge, said front face being movable with respect to said housing. --

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Approval of change(s) made to Fig. 1, as shown in red in the attached Request for Approval of Drawing Correction/Amendment, is respectfully requested.